

The Examiner has required an election of species pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following patentably distinct species:

- a. Double Pipe Structure:
  - i. Species I drawn to Figures 9-12;
  - ii. Species II drawn to Figure 13; or,
  - iii. Species III drawn to Figure 14.
- b. Double Pipe Joint Structure:
  - iv. Species IV drawn to Figures 20-22 and 24;
  - v. Species V drawn to Figure 25;
  - vi. Species VI drawn to Figure 26;
  - vii. Species VII drawn to Figure 27;
  - viii. Species VIII drawn to Figures 28-29;
  - ix. Species IX drawn to Figure 30;
  - x. Species X drawn to Figure 31;
  - xi. Species XI drawn to Figure 32;
  - xii. Species XII drawn to Figure 33;
  - xiii. Species XIII drawn to Figures 41-42;
  - xiv. Species XIV drawn to Figures 43-45; or,
  - xv. Species XV drawn to Figure 46.
- xvi. Any species elected between species iv-xii must also choose the type of fin configuration:
  - (1) Figure 37 – spirally extended fin portions;
  - (2) Figure 38 – spider-like extended fin portions;
  - (3) Figure 39A – two fin portions;
  - (4) Figure 39B – one fin portion;
  - (5) Figure 40A – three fin portions tangentially divided; or,
  - (6) Figure 40B – three fin portions radially divided.
- xvii. Any species elected among species vi, ix, xiii, and xiv must also choose the type of bypass inner pipe:
  - (7) Figure 49A – means of drawing; or,
  - (8) Figure 49B – bicolor forming.
- xviii. If (7) or (8) are elected, the type of holding ring method must also be elected:
  - (9) Figures 50-51 – with an inner ring; or,
  - (10) Figure 52 – no inner ring.
- xix. If species xv is elected, the type of step portion must also be elected:
  - (11) Figure 47 – with a C-ring; or,
  - (12) Figure 48 – a cylindrical member.

Applicants, without traverse, respectfully request the Examiner to proceed with Species i principally illustrated in Figures 9-12. Applicants believe that Claims 7, 8, 10 and 11 read on the elected species. Applicants request that the non-elected Claims be held in abeyance for possible rejoinder and/or further prosecution in future divisional and/or continuation applications.


### **CONCLUSION**

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this Response is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 7, 2006  
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